

George Abbot Bulletin

...the weekly round-up and preview for GAS parents and carers

Headteacher's Message

04 February 2022

All

Firstly, may we wish a very Happy Lunar New Year to all those who are celebrating this event in our community. The Year of the Tiger begins.

Today, I would like to give a reminder about the upcoming sequence of student assessments. The pattern of student assessments has been redesigned this year. We have introduced formal exams into lower school year groups as well as those traditionally held for our older students. We have brought the dates together in the table below:



Year Group	Exam/Assessment	Dates
7	Termly Assessment Week	Monday 28 February—Friday 4 March
	Examination Week (Maths, English and Science)	Monday 13 June—Friday 17 June
8	Examination Week (Maths, English and Science)	Monday 28 February—Friday 4 March
	Termly Assessment Week	Monday 13 June—Friday 17 June
9	Examination Week (Maths, English, Science, MFL, Geography, History, and RE)	Thursday 10 March—Wednesday 16 March
	Termly Assessment Week	Monday 13 June—Friday 17 June
10	Termly Assessment Week	Monday 21 February—Friday 25 February
	RE Further Assessment*	Tuesday 8 March
	Formal Internal Assessments	Monday 27 June—Tuesday 5 July
11	Revision Workshop	Monday 21 February
	Further Assessment Week*	Monday 28 February—Monday 7 March
	Formal GCSE Exam period	Monday 16 May—Wednesday 29 June
12	Termly Assessment Week	Monday 21 February—Friday 25 February
	Formal Internal Assessments	Wednesday 22 June—Friday 24 June* * Wednesday 6 July—Monday 11 July
13	Further Assessment Week*	Monday 14 March—Friday 25 March
	Formal A Level Exam period	Monday 16 May—Wednesday 29 June

* Please note, for Years 10, 11 and 13, these further assessments will contribute to a TAG grade, should the Summer Exam series be cancelled.

* * Please note this is an INSET Day for all other year groups, except for Year 12 undertaking the formal assessments and Year 13 taking public examinations.

Schedules for the Year 11 Further Assessments and the Year 10 RE Further Assessment can be found on the following webpage: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/>

Termly Assessment weeks are classroom based and part of our usual teaching practice. Examination weeks are new additions of a more formal nature. You will see that Year 7 and Year 8 students will just sit exams in English, Maths and Science and for Year 9 students, the list of subjects is extended prior to a full set of exams being set for Year 10 students. Please do note the asterisk in the table above. Our Year 12 and 13 students will be expected at school on the last INSET Day of the year, Friday 24 June 2022, if they have an exam set on that day. I will update parents and carers regarding the Ofqual position on summer exams once this is received: we expect an announcement on Monday 7 February. [Return to home page](#)

Finally, George Abbot has recently subscribed to The Wellbeing Hub, an interactive platform for the school community. For parents and carers, it offers weekly podcasts, live Q & As with subject specialists, support for managing adolescent issues, parenting courses and a self-care area, amongst other content.



Access to the Wellbeing Hub is strictly limited to the families of George Abbot students. The link below will prompt you to set up your individual login: https://club.teentips.co.uk/membership-account/membership-checkout/?evel=5&discount_code=GeorgeAbbotParent1J8c5

February's themes cover Adolescent Skin Health and this week a podcast with Holly Mason from The Skin Investment Clinic has been shared, covering adolescent acne and mental health. The Spring Term content line up is [attached](#). Previous podcasts and other content is still available to view on The Wellbeing Hub [website](#).

We hope that you find this a useful resource. If you have any questions, please email hub@teentips.co.uk or smurphy@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

Reporting LFT Test Results
Please continue to report your child's test results to the two following links:
The Government:
www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result
George Abbot School:
<https://forms.office.com/r/aa5GPS6gQM>

Lesson omission		
Week Commencing	A or B	Lesson omission
7 February	B	5
HALF TERM		

Notices	
Whole School	<p>⇒ Driving on site A reminder that parents/carers are not permitted to drive on site to drop off/pick up their child. If you are picking up your child for an appointment during the school day, you will be asked to wait outside the school gates until your child is sent out to you.</p> <p>On the rare occasion you may need to drive on site, to visit Reception, please respect the 5mph speed limit and wait for the vehicle gates to open fully before proceeding through them.</p> <p>⇒ Lost Property All unnamed and unclaimed lost property will be disposed of by the end of this half term. Please ask your child to come and check the lost property in Raynham Office for any misplaced items.</p> <p>⇒ Vacancies at George Abbot Please see the following page of the school website for further details on our current vacancies: https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/recruitment/. Please do forward to any friends or colleagues you think might be interested. Current opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher of Maths • Teacher of Chemistry or Biology • Inclusion Manager

Sixth Form

⇒ **FAO Year 13 students: Not going to university**
APPRENTICESHIP AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP WORKSHOP—Friday 25 February
9am - 10.30am in E22

This even is open to all students, however, if this is your chosen route we would **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** that you attend as it has been put in place to guide and provide advice. It will be led by Sue Taylor who is an expert in the field and will give you a chance to discuss and learn about apprenticeships and how to apply etc.

If you are timetabled a lesson in P1/W then you will need to let the tutor/teacher know that you will be at the workshop. Places are limited to 25 for this particular workshop so please do book with Mrs Nash in USIC or email as soon as possible:

enash@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

There will also be an Apprenticeship Corner in USIC which will have information, books, posters and links for apprenticeships.

1-1 CAREERS ADVICE

Gaynor Eke, our independent careers advisor, will also be available to see you after half term if you would like a 1-1 chat with her. Please note these sessions will need to be booked and depend on her availability.

CV/INTERVIEW ADVICE

If you feel that you could benefit from support and guidance on your CV and/or interview techniques, we can also help you. Please come see Mrs Nash or Mrs Rose in USIC.

PSYCHOMETRIC TESTING

There is also help/guidance for practice with Psychometric Testing on our website under Careers/Apprenticeships which is a tailor-made presentation for George Abbot Students

GENERAL CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Please do refer to the careers page of the website for a host of information, virtual events, insight days, links etc. from a number of companies and providers.

Booking for the workshop and the careers advisor is Mrs Nash either in person in USIC or on enash@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.

Year 13

⇒ **Year 13 Parent Subject Consultations**
A reminder, these consultations will run on **Wednesday 9 February 2022.**

Year 11

⇒ **Year 11 Student/Parent/Carer Revision Workshops—Monday 21 February**
We have arranged a Year 11 Revision Workshop to take place on Monday 21 February, during the school day, with a virtual session for parents/carers on the same evening at 6.00pm. Students will take part in one of three 90 minute sessions, run by a team of external specialists, who have vast experience in preparing students for exams. Our teachers do a superb job of preparing students in lessons, but we feel that given recent events this extra level of support will be hugely beneficial for Year 11. A letter will follow with further information.

⇒ **Uncollected Exam Certificates**

Please can any Year 11 students who have not collected their exam certificates come to the Exams Office (at the end of the Humanities corridor) in Breaks 1, 2 and 3 on Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 February.

⇒ **NCS**

The National Citizen Service (NCS) is a personal and social development programme for 15–17 year olds. Established in 2011, the programme aims to build a more cohesive, mobile and engaged society. By bringing young people together from different backgrounds for a unique, shared experience, NCS helps students to fulfil their potential and broaden their horizons. NCS is a brilliant opportunity which our school highly recommends and takes place over 2 weeks in the Summer holidays, including being partially residential. If you would like to find out more head straight to their website <https://wearencs.com/> or click [here](#).

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Year 10

⇒ **ADVANCED WARNING: RE Further Assessment**

Please be aware, Year 10 will sit their RE Further Assessment on Tuesday 8 March. It will last 50 minutes. Students will be examined on the following units:

- Buddhism: Practices
- Social Justice

A revision calendar as well as revision guides and workbooks are all available on Show My Homework. Please do encourage students to start revising early. There is no requirement to purchase a revision guide, but if you wish to do so we would suggest: AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity and Buddhism Revision Guide Paperback – 1 Jan 2018 by Marianne Fleming (Author) .

Year 8

⇒ **Science Exams**

The Year 8 Science exam will take place w/c Monday 28 February. This assessment will assess all learning covered so far this academic year. A list of topics that will be examined has been sent to students on Show My Homework (SatchelOne) by the Biology, Chemistry and Physics Heads of Department. Students should use their Science exercise books as their main revision resource, however, additional revision resources which some students might find useful are as follows:

- BBC Bitesize for KS3
- Senecalarning.com - summaries, notes and videos to revise content.
- www.doddlelearn.co.uk
Institution: George Abbot School GU1 1XX
Username: same as school login
Password: georgeabbot (unless reset by student)
- www.physics4u.co.uk—has a series of revision PowerPoints on "How Science Works". The first of these PowerPoints also advises students on how they should revise (even though these indicate they are for KS4 they are suitable for KS3).
- Further resources on the SLE in (Biology, Chemistry and Physics folders).

Please could you remind your son/daughter to bring a black pen, pencil, rubber, calculator and ruler to this exam.

Sustainable GA

Water Bottle Campaign: A reminder that our water bottle campaign started this week. Students are being rewarded for bringing their reusable water bottles to school, in turn we aim to cut up to 150 single use plastic bottles per person, per year! Please continue to encourage your child to bring a reusable water bottle to school.

Second hand/Vintage Clothes sale—new date! We are pleased to announce our second hand/vintage clothes sale has been rescheduled for Friday 13 and Saturday 14 May. Therefore, please bag any clean items of clothing or accessories in an acceptable condition and donate them to school. Please encourage your child to drop donations within the school day, or drop them yourself AFTER school hours, just inside the doors at Elmslie reception throughout January. Thank you for your continued support.



Focus on: bug hotel!

Recently, some of our Year 8 students have enjoyed creating a bug hotel in our Peace Garden. They have collected items, brought them into school and worked hard in their break time to construct it. We hope our bug hotel can provide a safe hideaway for wildlife and help make use of garden waste. They can shelter anything from hedgehogs to toads, bumblebees, ladybirds and woodlice. Our students are looking forward to monitoring the different forms of wildlife that decide to reside there.

Additionally, students have enjoyed attending Gardening Club on Wednesdays with Mrs Pearson and Mrs Matthews. So far they have planted spring bulbs (which we will enjoy after half term) and some potatoes. They plan to start growing some vegetables that students can take home and enjoy with their families!



Careers

Careers opportunities: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/careers-opportunities/>

All years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology Insights Film Title Sequences and Graphics
Year 10-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Catherine's School, Bramley—Careers with an Environmental Impact (see below)
Year 11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live Medicine Courses—Virtual A&E and Ward Rounds

Apprenticeship opportunities: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/apprenticeship-opportunities/>

Year 11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vines Group (BMW and Mini) Apprenticeship Open Days BCS—The Chartered Institute for IT Apprenticeship Apprenticeships and Degree Apprenticeships Workshop (see below)
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Virtual Work Experience opportunities: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/virtual-work-experience/>

Year 11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology Insights Film Title Sequences and Graphics
Year 11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live Medicine Courses—Virtual A&E and Ward Rounds

St Catherine's School, Bramley—Careers with an Environmental Impact

Tuesday 1 March, 4.30-6.00pm. Years 10-13.

St Catherine's invites students to their careers event with lots of fascinating speakers who will be offering an insight into their careers, including a climate lobbyist and reporter, a Government policy maker, a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Imperial, a water conservationist and an entrepreneur. Please see the Careers page of the website for more information.

Apprenticeships and Degree Apprenticeships Workshop

Open to all Year 12 and 13 students. If any Year 11 students are interested, they must see Miss Murphy in advance to gain permission.



APPRENTICESHIP AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP WORKSHOP

With Sue Taylor from ALPS

FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY, 9am – 10.30am in E22

This session will cover information and guidance on finding, selecting and sourcing relevant apprenticeships, the application process and assessment centres.

Please see Mrs Nash inUSIC to register or email enash@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.

If you are scheduled to have a lesson at this time, you will be allowed to attend this session but you will need to inform your teacher.



George Abbot School

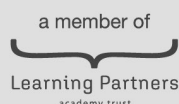
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